

REMARKS

The Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to enter the substitute preliminary amendment prior to examining the case. A prior preliminary amendment mailed on October 7, 2003, had a typographical error that is corrected herein.

Originally bracketed material to be removed from the [0001] paragraph is indicated by strikethrough (~~Strikethrough~~). The Applicants have amended the specification to clearly reflect all of the priority claims entitled by the application and priority claims in the Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney.

Although Applicants believe that no fee is due in conjunction with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/AMAT/5699P3/CMP/CMP/KMT, for any fees required to make this preliminary amendment timely and acceptable to the Office. The Applicants believe that no new matter has been introduced by this amendment.

Respectfully submitted,



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